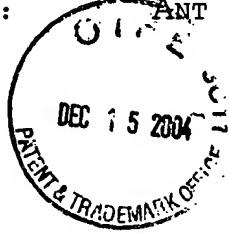


1616
JL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION

OF: TAKAGI ET AL.
SERIAL No. 10/019,481
FILED: APRIL 04, 2002
FOR: *ANT CONTROLLERS AND METHOD FOR APPLICATION THEREOF*



CONFIRMATION No.: 1417
GROUP ART UNIT: 1616
EXAMINER: NEIL S. LEVY

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Alexandria, Va 22313-1450, on:

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Date of Deposit Barbara A. Schwalge

Person Making Deposit Barbara A. Schwalge

Signature Barbara A. Schwalge

Date of Signature December 13, 2004

Honorable Commissioner
for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir:

In reply to the Office action of June 11, 2004, it is respectfully requested that the following remarks be entered and considered by the Examiner:

R E M A R K S

Claims 1, 10 and 13 to 17 as presented by applicants in their reply dated March 02, 2004, are currently pending in this case.

The Examiner has withdrawn Claim 15 which was newly submitted in said reply from consideration in this application arguing that the claim relates to subject matter which is independent or distinct from the subject matter of Claims 1, 10 and 13, 14, 16 and 17 under Rule 142(b) and MPEP §821.03. It is respectfully noted that the present application was filed under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §371. The U.S. national standards for restricting our claims relating to independent or distinct inventions which are addressed in MPEP Chapter 800 are, therefore, not applicable in the present case. Accordingly, the Examiner's withdrawal of Claim 15 from consideration in this application is not deemed to be proper. It is respectfully requested